drugs and formulations, from time to time, under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95)

In accordance with the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995, (DPCO' 1995) the NPPA fixes/revises prices of the drugs listed in its First Schedule and formulations based thereon. In case, there is any violation of the approved/notified price of a Scheduled formulation, action is taken under the provisions of the DPCO' 1995.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

Since the inception of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in August, 1997 and until January, 2005 a demand of Rs. 597 crores has been raised for overcharging in 263 cases. Of these, roughly 70% i.e.., in 184 cases, companies have fully or partly paid the amounts due. Approximately, Rs. 83 crores has been recovered so far.

As per DPCO 1995 provisions, no manufacturer or importer, except those exempted, shall market a Scheduled formulation without obtaining the prior approval of its price from the Government/NPPA.

Increasing commodities through FPSs

4675. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the commodities supplied to APL and BPL families through Fair Price Shops;

(b) the prices of these commodities for both the APL and the BPL families; and

(c) whether Government propose to add more items to the programme for supplying to the BPL families through Fair Price Shops?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Central Government presently makes available to the States/UTs Wheat and Rice for distribution to all categories of beneficiaries through the Fair Price Shops (FPS) under the Targetted Public Distribution system. Levy sugar is also supplied under

PDS and has been restricted to BPL families in all States and UTs except the North Eastern States, Hill States and Island Territories w.e.f. 01-02-2001. Besides the above commodities, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas allocates PDS Kerosene (SKO) to the State Governments/ UT Administrations for distribution to the ration card holders. Some States also distribute additional items of mass consumption through the FPSs such as exercise books, pulses, iodised salt, tea etc.

(b) The Central Issue Prices of foodgrains and sugar supplied under TPDS are as under:—

Commodity	APL	BPL
Rice (Rs./kg.)	8.30	5.65
Wheat (Rs./kg)	6.10	4.15
Sugar		Rs. 13.50 per kg. (Retail Issue Price for all categories)

The price of kerosene for distribution to the consumers under PDS is not fixed by the Central Government, which is fixed by the concerned State Governments.

(c) In order to increase the viability of Fair Price Shops (FPS) the State Governments have been advised to enlarge the basket of commodities to be sold through FPS by adding non PDS items for sale.

Displaying contents on cold drinks

†4676. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
DR. CHHATTRAPAL SINGH LODHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hon'ble Court has issued orders to the effect that statutory warning should be printed on bottles, containing cold drinks, pertaining to the harmful ingredients present in the drinks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.